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## UA68/8/2 James Ladd Oral History

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*WKU Oral History Committee*

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Produced by Oral History Committee  
Department of History  
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This is an interview with James C. Ladd, attorney in Munfordville, Kentucky. I believe a graduate in 1977.

Jim Bennett: Jim, when did you first enroll in Western?

Jim Ladd: August '75, 1975.

JB: And you were transferring from?

JL: Hopkinsville Community College.

JB: So you started with us as a junior?

JL: Right. Junior year.

JB: And you were a history and government major?

JL: I started out as a psychology major at University of Georgia, accounting major at Hopkinsville Community College. When I came to Western they told me to major in political science. And then my senior year, I changed my major to history. So, that's basically it but I started out as a government major when I started but I switched over to history.

JB: Well, that was a good move.

JL: Government department doesn't think so.

JB: Guess not. Where was your home when you came to Western?

JL: I lived in a trailer out in Bubble Trailer Court. Out on Russellville Road. Lot#34, I believe.

JB: Well, what I meant was what was your hometown?

JL: I was born and raised in Miami, but after I got to Fort Campbell in '70, what '72, I kept Miami, Florida, as my home on record. After I got out of the army in '74, I went to Hopkinsville Community College, and I kept Hopkinsville as my home on record. But, then I came to Western. I changed it to Bowling Green.

JB: You were in the 100 First Air Borne?

JL: Yeah.

JB: Is that how you heard about Western, in Fort Campbell?

JL: When I was at Hopkinsville Community College, I was recruited to come to Western by the VA. I forgot his name, but he was of the Veterans Department at Western. Big guy, mustache. Can't remember his name to save my soul. It was a spring term at Hopkinsville Community College, and they had booths set up there in the auditorium, there was one for Western. And then there was a Murray booth. They took me to Murray. People from Murray came and picked me up and took me to Murray. Then the guy I can't remember his name, but anyway he brought me to Western on a weekend. And that's how. My major concern at first, was I knew I was going to law school and my soul criteria for choosing a college was between Murray and Western. All I wanted to know was the percentage of

political science graduates at Murray were accepted in law school and vice-versa the same and I asked what percent of graduates got into law school. Western had the higher percentage so I chose Western. That was a \_\_\_\_\_ attorney in your placement.

JB: Sagabiel?

JL: Yeah. Then he was the one that got me to switch to history.

JB: Good for Jack.

JL: Is he still there?

JB: Yeah. It's been changed, they closed out whatever the office was that he was in, so he's doing something else now.

JL: He gave me the best advice that I got whenever I was at Western. Because he told me, and he was right as far as when I got to law school, that you don't use political science that much but use a lot of history.

JB: What was your first impression of Western when you came up that weekend?

JL: Party school, that's how I was recruited, and the man kept stressing the fact that the time that Playboy had first come out with their deal and Western was rated 5th in the country as a party going school, and they were very proud of that, or at least this

one individual was. He said you gotta come to Western, look at the rank we got in the Playboy poll, we ranked #5 in the country for having the best parties on campus, and I kept saying I'm worried about an education, and I said what percentage of your graduates go on to law school. Oh who cares, man this is a party school here. And the first night he put me up in a Holiday Inn and I went to Alpha Gamma Rho, I think that's the Ag. Fraternity. Well, they had a party and I was there on my first night. I enjoyed that, but I was really concerned about, ya know, at the time about 24, and my partying days were behind me. And the army made me do that, in other words I was a little, but more mature than the average student that was going in. I was interested in an education, and he was trying to impress me with a party atmosphere.

JB: You suppose, maybe that he felt since you were a Veteran that you being at Fort Campbell you probably, maybe were more sophisticated than the average student. He wanted to show you there was a social life.

JL: Oh yeah, I was interested in that especially compared to Murray, Murray was dead. So, far as any social life and I did enjoy it. Because after I started school at Western there was always a nice break. There was always something happening on campus, whether it was a Frat. party, or Sorority, or some social event outside in the Ampa Theater, or there behind Grise Hall there was always a concert, or something going on you could break the boredom with that.

JB: Did you join a Fraternity?

JL: Nah, I joined the Veterans on campus. I joined a Fraternity at the University of Georgia and I learned that and study, serious study, do not mix.

JB: Was the veterans on campus pretty active?

JL: In bowling it was, I joined a bowling team, but in social functions I never did go. I was a beer blast, but I did join a bowling team. And they were very active in that. And I bowled with them up until the time that I graduated I was on their bowling team. That's all I did.

JB: Did you go to summer school?

JL: I'm trying to think, I know that I did but I can't remember the courses that I took, because I had this driving ambition that I wanted to take as many courses as I could and still graduate in '77. I had more than enough hours to graduate, but I did go to summer school in '76, the summer between my junior and senior year. I think I took two classes. I remember now that it was Dr. Crowe's history class.

JB: I was thinking that you had been around? So, you obviously would come up with more than enough hours to graduate.

JL: I had a 160 some hours when I graduated.

JB: There is only 128 required.

JL: Well, see the University of Georgia, I started there and I lost a lot of hours by going to Hopkinsville, which is a UK branch. Then when I came to Western and I lost some of my Hopkinsville credits and I had to appeal because they would not accept them, two or three of them, and I won all of them.

JL: They tried to get me to take Math 109 at Western, I'll never forget that. In Sagabiel - because I had to appeal there, and I said that I had straight A's in Hopkinsville I took Algebra, Advanced Trig. and I made A's in it. They would not accept those credits initially Western would not. They said you have to take Math 109 it is a prerequisite and I said don't you think that if I can make an A in Advanced College Trigonometry that I can make at least a C in Math 109? I believe they call it jock math or something like that all the athletes take that which I won that one I also got some cleps in Spanish my language and in Biology too.

JB: So you came with the idea of going to law school?

JL: That was my soul ambition, I knew where I was going I said let me get out of here learn as much as I can get that degree because you had to have a degree my education has been a ticket I had to graduate from high school that was my ticket to get into college, and I had to get a degree in college that was my ticket to get into law school and I had to get a degree in law school that was my ticket to making the bucks so I considered everything a ticket. That's all I was going for is to get that ticket so that I could get into law school. So, I ran as many courses that I could,



studied as hard as I could, and came out with some pretty good grades out of Western.

JB: What did you think about the quality of the instruction? Were you happy, did you think that you were getting as much as you should?

JL: I was spoiled in other words at the University of Georgia I was a number, I'll never forget in my English class I was seat number 52. And the thing that really impressed me about Western was the personalized attention in fact I was thinking this morning on the way to work I can't think of more than two professors that did not actively seek to know each student individually ya know yourself, Dr. Crowe, and all of them they would always come up and if you had a problem it was one on one or come see me in my office always an open door at the University of Georgia I never even saw them seat #52 will you respond to this question I have to go to a mike and we were in an auditorium and when I came to Western and I did start at the advance level though so the class average 10 to 15 and I loved it. Every professor with the exception of 2 that I can think of went out of their way to get to know each student. You have any problems come see me or Ladd this paper you wrote I think was good but here is where I think that you can improve you wouldn't get that at the University of Kentucky or you wouldn't get that at Georgia that's why I got a kick out of it and it helped my grades too because I got to know each professor individually in fact a lot of times we were on first name basis in just a matter of two or three weeks of class.

JB: How did you adjust to the activities of the students you being older than most of them?

JL: That was hard in fact I was thinking about it again this morning if I could advise someone I would say be very careful in how you select your roommate if you have a choice so I didn't live in the dorm so I don't know if you have a choice in the dorm or not so far as who your roommate is I had the one goal I said I want to get out of here I'm gonna get good grades because that is important to get into law school and my roommates were just the opposite they wanted to party hearty they called it and live up to the party tradition at Western so it was hard for me to study so it was kind of hard for me to adapt to some of the activities because there is always something going on over at AGR or a party over at Sigma Nu or there's a pantie raid over here at the other sorority and that was hard and a lot of students say oh Ladd's nothing but a book worm so I did have some trouble because a lot of my peers in class were 2, 3, 4, 5 years younger than I was and they say oh Ladd is nothing but a bookworm, but I had that goal that's why I pretty well stuck to it, but most with my personality I didn't have too much trouble adjusting to them they did have trouble adjusting to me I did my share of partying, but not near the extent the average student did.

JB: Some of them that's the only reason for being...

JL: Oh, yeah. In fact, some of them are still there in fact one of my roommates is still there and I graduated three years ago and he is still trying to get that degree he would load up with 18 hours

and then drop to nine and then flunk one of those and I just found out it was just last week I was in Bowling Green I got to asking around I says hey how's so and so doing why he is still over at Western I said he was suppose to have graduated with me in '77 and he is still there. He was the guy that wanted to party every day and every night study what's that?

JB: What was the general attitude at that time, do you think for the most part that they were pretty satisfied had that period of student discontent and unrest passed by the time you got there.

JL: Oh, yeah, I didn't see any evidence of you talking about the 60's, the hippies everything Western impressed me as being very laid back and in class a classroom everybody was serious and after class it's just like you work hard and you play hard that's the impression that I got I went to class then I'd leave class, and then I'd go to work. It is a commuting college and you don't see much especially on weekends. They are gone so I guess they still call it the suitcase college.

JB: To a large extent, but more and more people are moving back on the campus. In fact, we don't have enough dormitories.

JL: We never had to put up with that.

JB: I guess it's the economics and it's cheaper to live on campus.

JL: Now I said that everybody was just either study hard or when

they did study they would study hard, and they would play hard. My, and it seemed like everywhere that I went at Western there was always these freshman girls. Just the first time in the big city lot. Out of Logan County girls with momma 18 or 19 years and never had been out of the county. Holy smoke, they get to Western and that was a mess.

JB: It's a big change for a lot of them coming from the rural background from small schools and suddenly they are on to a campus with...

JL: See, I had just the opposite. See, I came out of a 2100 high our graduating class was 2100 down to a smaller college so that didn't impress me as much as some of the other students they would complain. Holy smoke, I'm 18 years old and there's no curfew because I remember that was the first thing that I did in '75. Is they used to have a 1 o'clock curfew in the girls dorms. I think it was 11 o'clock on weekdays and 1 o'clock on Friday and Saturday. They did away with that my first semester there that was the impression I got. All these girls and guys too, in fact, my wife was there. She went through a year and then quit. A lot of people do that so I saw a lot of students come and go just in a two year period.

JB: Did you meet your wife first at Western?

JL: Yeah, I was a senior. I met her January of my Junior year, January '77. I met here at a party. In fact, I had met her

previously at a birthday party at my trailer, and then I met her again in January at a party. She had since dropped out of Western and went over to Bowling Green Business College. Because once again it was typical country girl comes to the big city. I don't know what for, but the thing is that everybody is going to college why not me? I don't know why I am here and after a while, what am I doing with my life and she dropped out. Really she was with a boy she was engaged to at the time and he dropped out his first semester. He said I have had enough of this and he influenced her to drop out. So, she said that I have got to do something so she came back to Bowling Green Business College. I met her and she was going there, that was January '76.

JB: What impressed you most physically about the campus? Is there any particular thing that stands out in your memory now about the way the campus looked or the buildings or this kinda thing?

JL: Well, the fact that everything was close. At the University of Georgia, I would have to really literally walk a half a mile, because you could not drive your cars on campus. You had to park in the parking lot and from my English class to my biology class I walked over half a mile and I had 15 minutes to do it. And that's one thing that I like about Western, when I looked it over I said that's super. In fact, I checked and I said where would all the government classes be right here or where would this class be? Right up there at Cherry, just a hop, skip, and a jump and you are out of Grise and at Cherry. I like that and all the trees and it had kinda the pastoral atmosphere that I like and everything was very efficient. All the buildings were almost new except for

Cherry.

JB: Were you there before they remodeled Cherry Hall?

JL: Yes, what have they done to it? There was no air-conditioning.

JB: Yes, when they remodeled it they air-conditioned it.

JL: No, cause it got hot in some of those classes, Carol Crowe's class that was in the summer and it did get hot. Who was the man that taught, big red-headed guy, beard?

JB: Jackson?

JL: I thought that was the name he taught Jacksonian Democracy. I thought his name was Jackson, but I know he taught Jackson's class I had him that same summer, too.

JB: He is in Austria right now.

JL: Yeah, he was German or Austrian or something.

JB: Yeah, he pops back and forth when he can't find nothing better to do. He had a sabbatical this year.

JL: He told me that he had just come back from Bordeaux somewhere just before he taught my class.

JB: Pakistan?

JL: India?

JB: He has worked both of those areas at different times, and he is back in the United States teaching short courses at the University of \_\_\_\_\_ in Austria.

JL: His class got hot. I know he did not go. He was one of the Prof's to outa his way to personalize himself with you. That was one, I was trying to think of. There was nothing bad about it, but in that classroom when that bell rang he was gone. And where as you tried to get that uniform out of me. I'm going out there in June. I still haven't found it's exact whereabouts, but that has nothing to do with this interview. I don't want you to run out of tape.

JB: I got plenty of tape. Who are some of the teachers whose names you recall? Teachers that you maybe had classes with, or maybe that you just got to know.

JL: Well, besides you, Dr. Troutman, I mean, I every, Prof., I made it a point to get to know a professor that way I would always it would seem to me, that I would always get the benefit of the doubt come grade time. In other words if I had an 87 and your grade scale was from 88 to 100 was an A, and 87 below was a B, and I had an 87, my class participation would bump it up to 88 and give me an A. And that's what I can remember just about everyone

of them Troutman, Crowe, Jackson, you, and then in the government department Parker, Blume, never forget him. He tried to get me to get a masters at Georgetown in comparative government. He sorta got upset when I turned him down. One Prof., I didn't get along with, he taught Scopes and Methods of Political Science, his name just hit me. It's Jay. He rides that Honda motorcycle to class, grey beard and kinda flaky, he wears this big ten gallon Western hat, boots. You know who I am talking about; he teaches Scopes and Methods of Political Science, that's that computer class. I think his first name was Jay J-A-Y, last name began with an S, I think.

JB: Maybe it will come to us.

JL: Would he be on my transcript?

JB: They don't have the names. You had the Jackson era, you had the British era with Carol Crowe?

JL: I had both of Troutman's courses before and after.

JB: The American History Survey.

JL: Yeah, he had two, I think that he split it in the civil war didn't he.

JB: Yeah.

JL: I had both of those with Troutman. And I had yours I never



did take your West class I wanted to do that, but I had your, what was it I guess it was 20th century?

JB: Either that or the research and writing.

JL: I took that too. I took two of your classes. I took the research and writing, then I took your 20th century and that's about all I took. I'm trying to think I had a double major though, so I had to take more than that two of Troutman's classes, Carol Crowe, Jackson's class, two of yours. I guess that's all, that's all I can think of in the History Department, right now. And then government Massement, I guess that he is still there, and Fay Carol she just lives down the road. In fact, I just went to her dad's funeral. It was right here at the funeral home next door, two or three months ago. See her dad and mother still lived down the road then. They moved to a nursing home in Bowling Green, so I knew Fay Carol already. She knows my wife's family very well. And Parker, Blume, who was that Kerney, that was another one of the Profs that really did get to you personally, The American Presidency, I believe I had him for that. Who is that Johnny Carson guy over there taught all the political theory classes?

JB: \_\_\_\_\_

JL: No, he is German. It's not Blume. It's a, he reminds me a lot of Johnny Carson. He teaches Modern Political Theory, Contemporary and Ancient Political Theory, I can't think of his name, I guess that he is still there too.

JB: I think so, there's not been many.

JL: Always talks about the parakeet.

JB: Yeah, I know who you mean I can see him, but I can't recall his name.

JL: Very nasty person. He reminds me a lot of Johnny Carson.ya know.

JB: I can see him right now, but I can't think of the name.

JL: So, I remember just about all of them.

JB: So you have done a good recall there. What did you think when you finished, well I guess by the time you graduated you had already been accepted in law school. So you had to start working on that.

JL: Yeah, I was accepted in March. In fact, I was accepted in all three U of L, UK and Chase. Up until I graduated I was intending on going to Louisville because it all depended on my wife getting a job at the time we were I promised my father when he died I would wait until I was 26 or graduate from college first and so I graduated in May of 77, and we were married in June of '77; but, we already had planned this way ahead. In March I said that I am gonna have to go to law school in a locality where my wife, even though she wasn't my wife then, could work. She had a good job offer up in Louisville and then I went up to Louisville

and I was not impressed with the school up there so that's when I went to UK, but my wife could not get a job up there so I went to Chase and she had another good job offer up in Cincinnati which is right across the river so I decided to go up there and again it has the same philosophy that Western has. Chase was a smaller school and the classes were smaller and you have the individualized attention especially in law school I thought that was important and where it used to - at UK the classes were a lot larger and there was not that personalized attention at UK or the University of Louisville so I'm tickled to death now that I went to Chase cus' it was the same type atmosphere as Western.

JB: Did you get any indication or any feeling from any of the law schools to how they viewed Western graduates. Did they seem that to hint that coming from Western you would be pretty well-prepared or did you get any indications from that?

JL: At first, I did in other words they would say an A at Western was equivalent to a B at Duke. Ok. It was something like that when I first go there there was a lot of people that came from Duke I will never forget one guy from Walford we got to talking about grades and I said that I had a 3.87 when I got out of Western and I think I only made one B my senior year he said well, yeah but you know larger schools he said he went to Walford which is a private mens college in Spartanburg, South Carolina he said well I made pretty well B's and C's at Walford but they were equivalent in other words to my B's. At Walford would equal your A's at Western because of grade inflation. In fact, that was a big thing when I was at Western I will never

forget in fact I was talking to Carol Crowe about it she was having to crack down where she had gotten a letter in her office a memo from Troutman who was the Dean back then that they needed to watch the grade inflation that was the topic of discussion for my two years at Western.

JB: It still is.

JL: Well, that was another thing that even made it up to Chase and people going to UK would say Ladd you people Ladd the 3.87 at Western doesn't mean anything up here those profs gave them out any way. They gave all the A's out, but then after it was funny though because after the first semester in law school we went from 120 we started out with 120 and we got down to 92 after my first semester out of those people that dropped a lot of them were from Duke in fact I'd say almost 3/4 of my graduating class came from either Murray or Western there wasn't too many UK graduates a lot of them did transfer from Chase back to UK law school we lost about 5 or 6 that way a lot of them could not be accepted to UK because they had a higher scale, but they were accepted at Chase finished their first year at Chase and then would apply for a transfer to UK and be accepted a lot of students did that they figured that it was more prestigious to graduate from UK law school then Chase Law School, but I don't care as long as I am satisfied with what I learned the school don't make that much difference.

JB: And from your own experience you had a pretty good background going into law school.

JL: Psychology helped me out a lot even at Western I took a world geography class and courses like that I took a geology course World Geography. I took two courses of World Geography and that helped. My whole aim my whole goal in education was to get as broad of an education as I could possibly get in law school I did the same thing I could have graduated in March because I had more than enough hours, but I said that I can be a lawyer for the rest of my life I said these extra 6 months that I am gonna spend here I said that I can pick up 5 more courses and that's really gonna help me and it is a lot of the students who graduated in March and I keep in touch with them and they say well I'm doing a lot of bankruptcy well I just didn't have time because I just wanted to get out so quick and start earning the bucks I said well I done had about 4 or 5 and I stayed that extra 6 months and took that bankruptcy course and now it's paying off those extra 6 months.

JB: There are a lot more things that you can approach and handle with that. What could you suggest that we could do in the history department that might be helpful to students that we didn't do when you were there?

JL: Give more tests probably when I was there it was strictly mid-term and finals and a lot of students that ended up with C's and D's because they didn't take that mid-term that serious and they would just cram for a final and they would make a D on their mid-term and a B on their final and average it out and I don't know that I can't remember whether you had grading policies you turned in-other-words you would receive a midterm do you still announce to

the students exactly what kind of test they are gonna have? How they are gonna count I think ya'll started that when I was there that was part of the grade inflation program that was because if you blow one then chances are that you could still keep a good grade. As far as the level of instruction I don't know I can't think of anything that would be ya know the personal attention was there you were accessible at your office the grading was fair didn't see any problem with that course you had to study for it.

JB: Did you find antiquated library facilities?

JL: Oh yeah, Cravens I never did go to the Library that much I studied better in my trailer than I did in the library cus' there was less noise the library was a bigger social gathering place as places on campus were.

JB: But when you had to do research there was antiquated library facilities?

JL: The Eighth floor of the seventh floor Cravens was the history. Excellent. I never had any problems with the library the only thing I remember was that Cherry was awful hot, but now that they have taken care of that.

JB: Well, we have air conditioning, but sometimes it goes off and what it does is that we are really worried when it goes off because we can't open the windows like we could.

JL: If there is some way that ya'll can more accurately promote because I

wish now that I had started out my junior year with history. I don't know how that you can do that. So far as to get out or maybe even with the recruiting program, like this man that came out and recruited me. Because I have always been interested in history. I love it!

JB: We have picked up a lot of history majors who have switched, say their junior years or something, because they finally got in history and if they had known when they started.

JL: That's what happened to me if I would have known I would have stayed with history all the way. Because political science was good and interesting, but I have always been, ya know what happened back then and look how much we have changed. Political science is more so as what is at present. History, I love to go back, and one of my biggest prides right now is that I can go back and point every President from Washington up. Tell you who they were, what party, how they served, and the years that they served. Dr. Troutman got me hooked on that and one of my good studying buddies, up in law school, was a history major and we used to, during the laws in class, we would have a history trivia quiz and he would pop up and say who was the president in 1858? What party? Who was his vice-president? Who was secretary of state? And we would constantly do that and we still do it on the phone. But I just wish now that I had more time. I would have loved to have taken your West History to the Wests, I believe you called it. Because I heard more people talk about that.

JB: Well, I got that coming up this summer.

JL: In fact, I would love to go back and get maybe a masters in History I was three years behind, and I did 2 years of work at Hopkinsville Community

College in a year and a half. I did basically almost 2 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  years at Western in 2 years. I was taking 21 hours a semester.

JB: You were working too weren't you?

JL: I worked at Allen's Laundry and Dry Cleaning out here. I started out on at UPS out on Lovers Lane. I started in September on '75, and I couldn't get a job. In October and November and December I worked at UPS, during the Christman rush. Then after that I didn't work at all until May, when we got out. Then I got to working at Allen's Laundry and Dry Cleaning, and I worked all the way up until I graduated, really until the time I moved up to Cincinnati.

JB: I know that when you were at Chase you had two or three jobs.

JL: Oh yeah, I was a maintenance engineer in an apartment complex, I was a law clerk for the cities attorneys office in Newport, I was working at a CPA's office in their tax law department, I was running around like a chicken with my head cut off.

JB: \_\_\_\_\_

JL: It's paid off though. I got a lot of good experience then.

JB: Well, I'm sure you did.

JL: But that's another good thing about Western is that everything was close. A lot of people just rode their bikes. In fact, after Bubble Trailer Court I moved right down East 12th Street, and I would just ride my bike straight up the hill to Cherry. Then I would ride right back down the hill, which is nice, grab



a sandwich and ride three blocks down to Allen's Laundry, which is right across the, well you know where it is, and we used to do your tablecloths at times. Both my wife and I were impressed with the general Bowling Green area. It's large enough where you can get what you need, it's got a nice college there, and it's small enough that you get to know the people in town versus Atlanta or Miami stuff like that.

JB: You are totally isolated on a campus in a large city and here there is a lot of intergration between the students, the faculty, the college staff, and the townspeople.

JL: I have seen Zacharius three or four times. In fact, I meant to ask him why he doesn't advertise more on TV? I mean Bowling Green Business College advertises more on Channel 13 than Western does.

JB: Well, he is a vigorous fellow.

JL: We just had a Chamber of Commerce Convention at the country club here about three weeks ago. Carol Hubbard, congressman, he was a guest speaker and Zacharius was there he spoke to us for awhile sounds like he is really moving Western.

JB: Oh, he is tremendous.

JL: He is a good P. R. man.

JB: He know the value of that and he is a very good personable approachable person you can just walk in and talk with him.

JL: I'm very impressed with the alumni at Western. Even up at Cincinnati they have a Northern Kentucky Western Alumni, very strong, and they went out and rented the entire press box at the River Front Stadium for Reds Ball Games the whole Western Alumnus up there are very active.

JB: It is amazing when you look through the new directory. You have got graduates in just about every place that you can think of. The alumni office really keeps in contact, I think. I was gonna ask you how well you thought that we were doing that job now that you have been out of Western for three or four years do they keep pretty well in touch with you, you still feel a connection in the time?

JL: Oh yeah, cuz I just sent them my \$15 dues. See my little red towel there I just send them my dues every week I get a letter for something. In fact, I just got something ya'll are going on a cruise and boy would I love to go on a Caribbean Cruise.

JB: Yeah, I would love to go on that, but the timing is wrong.

JL: Yeah, and besides see now that I am on with this partner. He is gonna free me, a little bit, and I would love to go on that. We are going to Acapulco in November for the Kentucky Bar Association annual convention in Acapulco, strictly business.

JB: Have you been there?

JL: No, no, I have heard The Princess, we are gonna be staying in The Princess a lot of people say that's the best on there, but I don't know.

JB: I stayed at what was a real small place up on a hill and you could not only see the Pacific, but you could not only see the Pacific, but you could see all the other hotels, the beach, and everything. Beautiful!

JL: Yeah, the brochures, it's gonna be the 5th to the 15th of November. So, I am looking forward to that. I am looking forward, hopefully now that if I get some free time to take some of these Western, in fact I know the Kentucky Chapter is having one of these press box days up in \_\_\_\_\_ Stadium. I hope that I am able to go to that, but I don't know. I am heavily involved in the Northern Kentucky Alumni Association too because of Chase I joined them too, but if anybody asks me I am a Western Alumnus.

JB: Yeah, the schools pretty well keep up with you. I got a call last night from Vanderbilt wanting money. They are trying to reach their goal of 165 million dollars. They said they are close to it.

JL: Well, send them a personal check.

JB: And then not to long ago, I got a call from Centre and just every school you go to.

JL: You used to teach there didn't you?

JB: No, I did my undergraduate work there.

JL: Oh really, and you came outa Vanderbilt with a Ph. D?

JB: I taught in Texas, in San Antonio.

JL: I came that close to going to Vanderbilt in law school, boy, I should have seen if you could pull some strings for me. But the only way I could have went was on a scholarship it was a Nathaniel Green Law Scholarship. \$5,000 a year, they had 5 of them. And Mark what was his name, he was a brilliant guy there at Western, came out of political science Mark Ezel, brilliant guy, out of 800 possible on the LSAT Law School Admission Test he made a 760 that put him in the top 1/2 percentile in the country. Both him and I applied at Vanderbilt, he was accepted I was provisionally accepted, in other words I was put on a waiting list. We applied for the scholarship. I didn't see much chance at getting it myself, but Mark for sure he had a 4.0 all the way through Western, perfect. They denied him, they turned him down he went to the University of Virginia, and I made it up at Chase. We were really anxious to go there cuz' we worked well at Western we always studied together at Western.

JB: Yeah, that would have been good.

JL: Maybe he is back in Bowling Green. His parents are from here, he is the type of guy that probably got a Pentagon job cuz' I heard, in fact, I was on the MU court team at Chase. I traveled all over the country and one of our competitions was at the University of Virginia. He was there and everybody was, oh yeah, he is brilliant, he is number one in class at the law school up there, but I never did get to see him, because he was out of town that weekend that I was there. But, they said he was brilliant, so I imagine he has a high-level job.

JB: Probably so.

JB: Do you get this History department newsletter we send out to our graduates?

JL: I'd like to. The only thing that I get is the Alumni magazine.

JB: We don't always get it out every year, but we get it out in the late summer or fall. I'll make sure that you get on the list. What kind of things would you like to see, I have got to get it out this year, what kind of things would you like to see in a department newsletter?

JL: What the profs are doing. Kinda like Jackson, I would like to know that he is over there on a sabbatical doing this and that, what's your latest thing on your uniforms and Carol Crowe I remember she got married while I was there, you know stuff like that just because I can't remember any of the students, or at least a lot of this history students out of Western went to Chase. I don't know if you know her name is Jill Halax, she had a lot of history courses there in Cherry. In fact, that's where I met her and she went to Chase and she graduated with me. She is associated with a law firm up in Florence, Kentucky, now she is fixing to move back to Paducah. She's burnt out of the Cincinnati type atmosphere the doggy-dog. A lot of competition, 300 some attorneys in one county. She started out with peanuts, and now she is and I told here I am not gonna stay up here, but I sacrificed my social life up there. But we go to the funeral home here, versus she goes to the night clubs, but I am tripling what she is doing and she is dissatisfied so she is coming back to Paducah. James Bolin is over

in Middlesboro, he came from there and he is over there now with his own practice, by himself. The Goatlets, they took a lot of history. They're back in Hixon. Goatley Lamar is with some other firm Reynolds and someone else I can't remember Catherine Reynolds or somebody Pam Thompson she took a lot of history courses. She is down at Atlanata now. She's teaching down there though a lot of the guys, the little Jewish boy I had a lot of history courses with him. And who was that one big guy? He's Ralph. He's got his own law office down there in Bowling Green. I met him in Bankruptcy Court last week Ralph Watts? But he had all the history courses, I know you know him but he was dating a girl named Suzanne or Sue and they were really intellectual they would always walk around with book packs. They were the kinda hippies, but big guy and I guess he has picked up about 50 pounds, I saw him in Bankruptcy court and I can't remember, he went to the University of Louisville, and I was going there with him. We kinda split up when I went to Chase. And I saw him, I went to a competition at the University of Louisville, and I saw him there Ralph whatever. Mark Leve, little Jewish guy, he took a lot of history he is up in Louisville now. He went to the University of Louisville and he graduated with Ralph. Then Ralph, Mark, and I all set together at the bar exam in Frankfort. Mark has his office up in Louisville by himself. Penny Travelstead she is down there, Nancy Calloway she's in with Flora Stewart. I saw her at Bankruptcy Court, I met every attorney in Bowling Green at Bankruptcy Court. That's the going thing in Bowling Green. Nancy came out of Chase with me. In fact, her daddy used to teach government.

JB: In the History Department?

JL: Was he in History?

JB: Jim Calloway, he retired about three years ago.

JL: Was he there when I was there in '77?

JB: His office was right next to mine.

JL: What did he teach?

JB: He taught Diplomatic History.

JL: Oh, I know another history course I took. It was a Spanish or the that's two more.

JB: Latin America.

JL: Yeah, who was that guy? I can't remember him now, very outgoing guy.

JB: Tall?

JL: Big mustache.

JB: Richard - good heavens - I can't think of his name.

JL: Oh, and you work with him.

JL: He is still there and was an excellent prof. That's another thing ya'll might think of in your classes use slide presentation. He uses a lot of them. In fact, he took tours down there just about every day, and then he had some more interesting. And of course Carol and you, would always have well as long as you don't have a monotone. Jackson is really the monotone one. He would put you to sleep. You know how hot it always was in the summer and he would go into that monotone. You would always spice it up and so would Carol Crowe. Troutman would ya know, but if you all would predict cooperate especially like Troutman's class think you could incorporate some slides, course how are you gonna get slides back in the Civil War Days, but...

JB: Well you can take slides of drawings and you could do it.

JL: In fact, I took two classes under that prof. in Latin America. I still have my old text book from there. I have every text book from my history class, and they have come in handy. I still have every law school text book, you know people always sold them, but I said no one of these days it will come in handy.

JB: Yea, I always kept mine.

JL: The history of Latin America, and then he had taught another course the Polumancy or something like that, but I forgot his name. That was his first year there the '76-'77 year.

JB: I can't recall his name.



JL: He was good. That was two more history courses, but I couldn't think of those, but I enjoyed his class because he had a lot of slides or even a field trip, spice it up with a field trip.

JB: They can just tell you have learned an awful lot by the way.

JL: It might be some way to captivate the students' attention. Especially if you speak in monotone. In Jackson's class, we went to the Hermitage, that busted up fun we went down there. It was super, the whole class went, we had a 100% turn out really thoroughly enjoyed it. I still remember all those little letters that Andy Jackson wrote. Of course, I don't know how you can incorporate your West class you would have to take them up to Dodge City.

JB: We could take about a 6 weeks summer tour. That would be great wouldn't it? But there is a fellow in Nashville who operates a Rodeo, indoor in arenas and he travels all over from Nashville, all the way to the east coast about as far as Detroit and so on. I have sometimes taken my class down to. He has this ranch outside of Nashville and he puts on a Western Bar-B-Q dinner so and shows films of the rodeos and parts of the rodeo are still there.

JL: That's what makes education interesting cause if you gotta sit in that classroom 3 days a week for an hour/hour and ten minutes whatever 50 minutes. That's like in political science, we didn't take any field trips, it was always in the government department go in there and hear your lecture go home and study.

JB: That can get really tiresome.

JL: I'd like to see Troutman. How is he doing?

JB: Oh, alright I guess!

JL: Is he still Dean?

JB: He is head of the department. He is not Dean anymore.

JL: Who is Dean?

JB: Mounts was Dean when you were there?

JL: I thought that Troutman was Dean.

JB: He is head of the History Department.

JL: Then there are two positions.

JB: Yeah, Mounts was there, but then he left last year around this time of the school year to become President of a college out in Washington. We got a new Dean, but he hasn't come yet though. He's from Florida.

JL: That's put that in your newsletter stuff like that. Cause you know the students, that's another thing that I have in my magazine, they talk about students, but I can't relate to that, because I don't know them. I want to know what happened to my old Prof's or is that old building still there. Never forget the girls laying out on the parking structure put some pictures of that in there you know. Ice it up. Especially for alumni, because I don't anything about the students that are there now. A lot of the stories are based on the accomplishment of

this one student. I always looked, the first thing I do when I get the magazine, is I go to the back and it will say class of '77 and it will tell you so and so is doing and I'd like to get in that too, ya know, I have sent that in, but I never have gotten in the back of it. Ya know, something that says James C. Ladd now resides in Munfordville, attorney at law etc... Well, that's the first thing that I go to.

JB: I do too, when I get mine what's happenning with people where they are going.

JL: But I say do the same thing with your history newsletter or Troutman's class went to a field trip or something like that. I'm gonna try to get down there, and I kick in your door one of these days. I'm gonna have to be in 20 days from last Saturday whatever day that is I have got to go down and file another answer in the bankruptcy court. In fact, I was there a week and 1/2 ago. I went to see Mr. Allen. He's getting on up in the years, he still wants to sell me that laundry. I might buy it, it would be a good tax shelter.

JB: It would be a good idea.

JL: So, I am thinking about doing that.

JB: Well anytime you are down, I am usually in my office or at home.

JL: I don't even know where you live. I've been out there, you still live off of Louisville Road?

JB: No, Nashville Road.

JL: Nashville, oh ok. In other words, you go past the old Bowling Green Shopping Center?

JB: No, it's before you get to it. You turn at Newman Drive or Highland Drive, either one.

JL: Ok, because I know I have been to your house one time, but I'm not sure how to get there. You turn left, I know that.

JB: Turn left off of Nashville Road on Newman or Highland and you go one block and turn right. It is the first street east of Nashville road just one block street. You can't miss it, next door to the district court judge.

JL: Who is that now?

JB: Henry Potter.

JL: I don't know him. I've been out there somebody else lives out there, but a dentist isn't that where a gynecologist lives that's the Greek guy Kafagolis.

JB: Yea, he lives right on up Newman Drive.

JL: That's when I was heavily involved in '76. When I was at Western, I got involved in Jimmy Carter's campaign and Kafagolis was in charge of that.

JB: He was active-

JL: So, I spent a lot of time out in your neighborhood.

JB: Then you would have a good idea of where I am then.

JL: Yeah.

JB: Well, any other words that you want to say about.

JL: Go Hilltoppers!

JB: That's a good way to end it, right there!

END OF INTERVIEW